Series: Authentic Christianity **Title:** Family, Kingdoms, Church

<u>Text</u>: (Titus 1:10-11)

I. <u>The Family of God</u>: (John 1:12)(Gal 3:26)(Eph 3:15)

All believers, from all time, that are in Christ are children of God, whether on Earth or in Heaven.

This Includes the OT Saints Also:
(Acts 10:43) (Gen 22:14)

Both OT & NT Believers Are Outlined: (Rom 4:16-25)
(1 Jn 5:1, 13)

II. The Kingdom of God: (Lk 17:20-21)

The Kingdom of God includes all the saved on earth at any specific time in the history of the world. Like Right NOW!

The Present Kingdom of God is spiritual. (Jn 18:36)
Kingdom of Satan vs. Kingdom of God. (Col 1:13)
At salvation enter the Kingdom of God. (Mk 1:15) (Mk 9:1)
We are Born into the Kingdom of God: (Jn 3:3)
At death, we enter God's Kingdom in Heaven. (2 Tim 4:18)
Kingdom of God is a world wide & invisible: (Lk 17:20b-21)
The Kingdom was preached as being "At Hand". (Mk 1:15)
Church is never described this way: (Acts 20:25; 28:31)
"The Gospel of the Kingdom" (Mk 1:14)(Matt 4:23; 9:35)

III. <u>The Kingdom of Heaven</u>: (Jer 23:5)(Ps 48:2) **Pilate asked Jesus about His Kingdom:** (Jn 18:33-36) Disciples looked for Kingdom of Heaven on Earth: (Acts 1:6)

IV. <u>The Church of God</u>: (Deut 14:2)(Gen 12:2-3)(Gal 3:8) <u>God gave Israel 2 ordinances:</u>

<u>The Church is God's heavenly people</u>: (1 Peter 2:9-10) <u>God gave His church 2 ord - Baptism & Lord's Supper</u>

The Church & Kingdom of God are not the same thing (Matt 16:18)

The Church is referred to as the Body of Christ: (Eph 1:22-23)

2 thoughts I would like to bring to your attention: (Matt 16:18)

The rock was Christ Jesus, as Peter's statement reveals: (1 Pet 2:6-8) Peter's Own Confession is Jesus os the Rock.

This statement is consistent with the rest of the Bible (Ps 89:26) (1 Sam 2:2) (1 Cor 3:11)

God would not build His church upon a man and a few moments later call that man Satan. (Matt 16:23)

Secondly, Jesus said: "Its the Lord's Church & the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Seven Oldest and Leading Denominations

I. Roman Catholic – 590 A.D.

- II. *Lutheran* 1520 A.D.
- III. Episcopalian/Anglican/Church of England 1534 A.D.
- IV. *Presbyterian* 1540 A.D.

V. *Congregational* – 1580 A.D.

VI. *Methodist* – 1740 – 44 A.D.

VII. *Campbellism* (Campbellites) – 1827 A.D. (Lk 9: 49, 50)

The question, then, is when did Jesus build his church? (Acts 1:15)(Acts 2:41) To whom & WHAT were they added?

Church established before Pentecost

First: it had a treasurer (John 12:6),

Second: it had discipline (Matthew 18:15-17)

<u>Third</u>: *It observed the 2 ordinances*, Baptism/Lord's Supper Fourth: *The Church was commissioned* (Matthew 28:18-20).

The Church Was Not Established In The Upper Room when Jesus breathed upon them (John 20:20)

This was the fulfillment of our Lord's promise in (Jn 14:16)

When did Jesus establish his church? (Eph 2:19-20) (1 Cor 12:28)(Eph 4:11-14)(Heb 3:1)

When then did this event take place? (Lk 6:12)(Acts 2:42)

The NT Church is the Lord's Assembly.

The church was known by its location such as in ... (1 Cor 1:2) "Unto the church of God which is at Corinth,"; It is where He gets Glory – (Eph 3:21) It is what Christ gave himself for it – (Eph 5:25)

It is a glorious Thing – (Eph 5:27) It is a Holy Thing – (Eph 5:27)

Brings Him Glory by Fulfilling His Purpose: (Eph 4:11-19) Brings Him Glory by Fulfilling Great Commission: (Matt 28:19-20)

Brings Him Glory being a multiplying Disciples: (2 Tim 2:2)

The Church of God is the Local, Visible, Called Out Assembly of Baptized Believers who have covenanted together to carry out the Great Commission.

The Church of God is never Referred To in scripture as any Organization or Institution, except as an assembly of baptized believers in a specific place.

Are you a Member of the Family of God with the Kingdom of God in you?

When were you Born into it? How were you Born into it?

Are you longing for the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth?

Are you a member of the Church of God?